

RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHED 1939

April 2005 NEWSLETTER

**President: Linda Arnold
Newsletter: Diana Patton
497 Stony Brook Drive
Bridgewater, NJ 08807**

Spring Felicitations!

Hooray! Spring is here! It is, you know, and with all the April showers we've been having, we're going to have one heck of a May floral show! Speaking of flowers, many of you admire watercolorist Margaret Crawford's luminous and award-winning florals. Margaret will demonstrate watercolor for us (I actually don't know if it will be a floral this time; she does a lot of beautiful work) on Monday, April 25th, at the Somerset County Library, 7:30 pm. Rita Gorky will provide refreshments for us that evening and we thank Rita for that.

Thank you, Mary Ann Vaccaro, for arranging RVAA's terrific trip to the Museum of Modern Art. About 25 of us went and it was an eye-filling day. Your editor was delighted to reacquaint herself with familiar paintings she hadn't seen in years—those of Van Gogh and Matisse, Picasso and Jackson Pollack, and many, many more. There was an interesting archeology exhibit in the basement galleries—artifacts from the millionaire's brownstone mansion and the Dorset Hotel—which were found while excavating for the new MOMA, and many other fascinating exhibits as well. Walking through the galleries themselves presented the viewer with surprises, views of artworks seven floors below, views of the sculpture garden, views of nearby brownstones and penthouse gardens. I'm already looking forward to my next visit! (the only unfortunate thing was a handsome leather jacket was removed from the bus during our absence, so if you leave a coat on our next bus trip, don't make it your favorite one. We've never had this happen before and it probably won't again, but forewarned is forearmed)

But long before this, RVAA has another **TREAT** for you. Debbie Hughes says there are still a few seats left on the bus for a trip on **SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH**, to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Salmagundi Club (American Watercolor Society Show) as well (although you can just stay the whole time at the Met, if you please). Please make your check out for \$28. to RVAA and mail it to Debbie at 255 Falmouth Place, Bridgewater, 08807. We meet at 8:15 am (**TIME CHANGE**) in the upper parking lot of the Somerset County Library, leave at 8:30, home around 6 pm. Thank you, Debbie! (more info? Debbie's at 908/725-4639).

Lots of shows are on now or upcoming—and some interesting classes as well. Gay Billich tells us that Dolores Ziegler (one of our fall demonstrators) is having a one-day workshop at Somerset Art Association May 10th. You can phone SAA at 908/234-2345 for info on that. SAA is currently having a celebration of its 35th Anniversary with a very special show “The Faces of SAA”, a portrait exhibit, of and by members, with mini-histories beside some of these portraits.(web site:somersetart.org). This show is up April 10—May 14th, with a cocktail reception April 10th, 2-4.

The Juried Show at the Bernardsville Public Library is going up as I write, and will be up until April 30th (do let me know if you’re in it). This is a really good exhibition place and the show should be a very nice one, with oils, acrylics, pastels, original prints, and watercolors. Reception is 2-4 on April 10th.

But there’s much more. The New Jersey Watercolor Society Full Members’ Show will be up and running April 10th to April 22nd and this is always spectacular. You can see it Fridays between noon and 3 or any night there’s a performance—just tell the attendants you’re only there to see the exhibit, and you don’t have to pay for parking. Reception is also April 10th, 1:30—3:30. RVAAers Elsa Herrmann, Joan McKinney, Diana Patton, and Debbie Tintle will be in this show.

Trinity United Church has its show Saturday, April 23rd—10-4 and several RVAA members will be exhibiting there (Treasurer Barbara Fiorintino and Diana Patton among them). This will be at 118 King George Road, in Warren, and will be a good mix of painters, photographers, etc. Lunch is available.

The 25th Anniversary of the Wildlife Art & Carving Show will be Saturday and Sunday, April 29th and 30th. (RVAA members Debbie Tintle and Diana Patton will be exhibiting both days). In addition to all the galleries upstairs and down, of paintings, sculptures, photography, and crafts, there are MUSICIANS and usually a wonderful guest animal or two or three (a wolf is coming!), silent auction, the gift shop, catered lunches available, and more. If the day is sunny, you can wander the wonderful preserve around the show, which is at 190 Lord Stirling Road in Basking Ridge, at the Environmental Education Center of the Somerset County Park Commission.

Eleanor DeMott tells us that the Jacob Swerdlow Gallery on Main Street in Bound Brook has a special show March 20—April 30th which includes our own Ken Bernhard, Rae Hoffman, and Ruth Wilson, so you might want to check it out. Eleanor also says that the Jointure for Adult Community Education (say, that’s who your editor teaches for) is running a trip on May 15th to the Philadelphia Museum of Art for a humungous retrospective show of the works of Salvador Dali. You may phone 908/722-0233 for further information.

Furthermore, the NJWCS Associates Members' Show will be at the Bernardsville Library May 2-30th (after the present State Juried all-media show). Pre-registration due April 23. For membership and prospectus information call Ann Taylor, Show Chair: 973/239-6074.

“Works on Paper” in the Somerset Cultural and Heritage Commission Gallery in the Court Administration Building on Grove Street in Somerville, will run for a month starting on April 25th (RVAAers accepted into that show, please let me know for the next Newsletter). This show includes both watercolors and prints and is a state show.

Last, but certainly not least, the Lamington Presbyterian Church Annual Invitational Art Show will run from Tuesday evening, May 2 until Saturday afternoon May 10. This will include oil, watercolor, acrylic, pastel, mixed media, photography, and sculpture.

Just finished is the month long Bridgewater Township Exhibit which included so many RVAAers! Ken Bernhard (2nd prize, Professional Category), Kathy Blair, Susan Boyd, Marge Braun (Honorable Mention, Professional), Amy Erdman, Sherry Engelberg, Angela Fehrenback, Susan Furey (Honorable Mention, Professional), Rita Gorky (Honorable Mention, Non-professional), Mary Lou Guididas, Jim Laubach (Honorable Mention, Non-professional), Jacquie Pasternak Mazur, Diana Patton (3rd, Professional), Doris Peck, Christiane Silla (2nd, Non-professional), and Mary Ann Vaccaro.

What a fantastic time of year! So many shows to be in! And spring is outside so you must spring outside and paint, as well! (see, you needed to eat your chocolate Easter bunnies and Cadbury eggs and your seder treats for energy to paint and participate!)

And DEW DROP (spring flowers on my mind) ME A NOTE WITH YOUR NEWS!